



# *Superior Court of California*

COUNTY OF VENTURA  
Hall of Justice  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

**Michael D. Planet**  
*Executive Officer/Clerk  
and Jury Commissioner*

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 6, 2006

Contact: Robert Sherman  
Assistant Executive Officer  
(805) 654-2964

### **VENTURA SUPERIOR COURT PROVIDES DIRECT CONNECTION TO INTERFACE'S "2-1-1 VENTURA COUNTY" PROGRAM**

The Ventura Superior Court, working in concert with Ventura County Interface, recently installed "2-1-1 Ventura County" blue phones in each of its three courthouses.

The phones connect directly to Interface's countywide comprehensive information and referral service. Trained multi-lingual staff are on duty 24 hours a day, including weekends, to provide assistance with such issues as locating domestic violence shelters, support services, free or low-cost health care, crisis intervention, and obtaining treatment for substance abuse problems.

The phones are located in areas of the courthouses most likely to produce a need for these services, such as the Family Court lobby in the Ventura Hall of Justice and outside the dependency courtrooms at the Juvenile Courthouse in El Rio. Posters and brochures next to the phones explain the service to court visitors. The 2-1-1 call is free and can also be dialed from any landline telephone. Cell phones can connect by dialing 1-800-339-6993.

Interface's helpline has been providing information and referral services for over 25 years. The 3-digit "2-1-1" prefix, which was recently set aside by the California Public Utilities Commission for the exclusive use of local health and human service information and referral programs to allow quick

**Ventura Superior Court Provides Direct  
Connection to Interface's "2-1-1 Ventura County" Program  
November 1, 2006  
Page 2**

and easy access to trained resource specialists, dramatically improves access to these services.

The 2-1-1 program began in Los Angeles County. United Way of Ventura County and Interface Children Family Services formed a partnership to bring 2-1-1 to Ventura County. United Way is spearheading community awareness and outreach efforts, and working with First 5 Ventura County and other organizations to fund start-up costs and ongoing operations.

Additional information about Interface and the 211 program can be obtained by visiting [www.icfs.org](http://www.icfs.org) and [www.211ventura.org](http://www.211ventura.org)

# # #